

Saguache County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, March 16, 2010 with the following present:

Sam Pace, Chairman  
Mike Spearman, Co-Vice Chairman  
Linda Joseph, Co-Vice Chair  
Ben Gibbons, County Attorney  
Wendi Maez, Co-Administrator  
Lyn Zimmer, Co-Administrator  
Melinda Myers, Secretary and Clerk to the Board

Meeting called to order by Chair Pace at 9:03 A.M.

**Additions or Deletions to the Agenda.**

1. Executive session during Road & Bridge report.
2. Cancel the OEM Director report.

**Spearman moved to approve the agenda as amended. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Reading and approval of minutes of March 9, 2010.**

**Joseph moved to approve the minutes of March 9, 2010. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Review of Mail** and other correspondence:

1. **Colorado State University Extension Office** sent a letter in regards to the CCI Summer Conference in Vail in 2009. They will be having meetings in Alamosa, Co on March 23&24, Jefferson County on April 7 & in Delta on May 5&6 for workshops on Solar & Bioenergy, Home Energy Efficiency Expo, & Geothermal & Microhydro power. (3/11/10)
2. **Fremont County Dept. of Human Services** sent an invitation for a Commissioners Training on March 30 in Canon City, CO. Please RSVP by March 22. (3/11/10)
3. **Colorado Rural Water Association** sent a training on Operator Math, Disinfection Procedures, Chlorine safety, Sacda Systems & Instrumentation on March 16 @10am, Adam State College. (3/11/10)
4. **Gunnison Dolores Watershed** sent a letter inviting the BOCC to a meeting in Montrose, Co on March 30 from 1-4 pm; this meeting is to discuss USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. (3/11/10)
5. **Colorado State University** sent a letter that Kathy Rennels leader of CCI & Larimer County Commissioner, would like to contact the BOCC to make a better partnership with Saguache County. (3/11/10)
6. **Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District** sent the Agenda for the Board of Directors on March 22, starting at 6:30 pm. (3/15/10)
7. **Vibrant Solar, Inc** sent a letter on how to make Saguache more Energy Efficient with any questions call Wayne Snider at 719-263-4461. (3/15/10) Board would like Mr. Snider to come in and present his program, Administration will contact him.

8. **Weld County Board of Commissioners** would like to purchase DSS excess TANF Reserve money for an amount equal to what is spent in local MOE dollars. If interested or any questions call Lennie Bottorff at 970-352-1551. (3/15/10)
9. **USDA Forest Service** sent a letter to inform the BOCC of the seasonal road closures of BLM & USFS roads starting on March 15. (3/15/10)
10. **Jim French Trinity County Schools**, California, sent an electronic email to NFCSC Members- Government (schools & counties) for Dues & Memberships. (3/15/10)
11. **Linda Joseph** sent an electronic email concerning SB98 County Money for Noxious Weeds. (2/16/10) Commissioners sent a letter of support.
12. **Mike Smith** from **CCI** will be in the Valley on Tuesday, March 23 and wants to meet with the Board. Due to schedule conflicts, Administration will schedule the meeting on the morning of March 30.

**Introduction of Guests:** Matie Belle Lakish – Crestone Eagle; Michael Horan; Iris Garcia – Road & Bridge; Nancy Hood; Tom Blunt – Veterans Officer.

**Commissioners Reports:**

**Mike Spearman** reported:

- Received a call from Chris West of Colorado Cattlemen Agland Trust regarding issues with the Assessor.

**Spearman moved to make a \$100.00 donation to the Colorado Cattlemen Agland Trust. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Sam Pace** reported:

- March 12 - Attended the CCI Steering Committee meetings in a Denver.
- Received a call from CCI, about a decision from BLM on the percentage of PILT going to the counties.

**Spearman moved to approve sending a letter of support to Mark Jiganti for Cochetopa Towers LLC to build a cell tower on BLM property. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was Three Ayes.**

- Mark Jiganti is requesting a letter of support for a cell tower to be placed on BLM property on the west side of Cochetopa.

**Linda Joseph:**

- Ongoing work on SEMTAC committee developing the Improvement plan for Colorado Trauma services, based on recommendations from the 2009 review by the American College of Surgeons.

Break

**Wendi Maez & Lyn Zimmer** – Co-administrator report:

- Pete Garcia informed the Board about problems with the light fixtures in the lobby which are shorting out. The electrician thinks the problem is in the sockets, but if that does not

solve the issue the wiring may need to upgrade. Board approved the replacement of the sockets.

**Spearman moved to accept the bid from Meeks Roofing for \$21,500 to fix the roof on the Public Health building in Center, pending the inspection of the building. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Pace moved that if the decision is made to renovate the Public Health building in Center, any additional funds to add more insulation be paid from the General Fund. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

- Garcia reported that the roof on the Public Health building in Center has been damaged and has leaked. Garcia has received two bids to replace the roof. Administration will contact CTSI to evaluate the building to see if it is worth putting more money into.
- The court has bought benches for the courtroom and does not want the old chairs. The Board did not want to replace the green ones in the commissioner's room with the black ones from the court. Garcia will oversee dispensing the chairs to the offices/departments that may want them.
- Received a request from SLV Fair Board for \$4000. This request was paid from Conservation Trust funds last year. There are no CT funds available at this time. This funding was approved at the Valley Commissioners meeting. Administration will ask the Fair Board to apply for a Sales Tax Grant, or if for durable equipment could be requested from Conservation Trust Funds, once replenished.
- ScSeed, a Fall 2009 Sales Tax Grantee, requested that we hold a grant check for them for the SLV Energy Fair expenses. The SLV Energy Fair has requested the funds, however, the check is written to ScSEED, so they need to make the request. The check is only good for 90 days and that date has passed, and will need to be re-issued. More information is needed before the check can be re-written.
- Crestone Youth Plaza Inc. has requested \$12,000 of the Title III funds for an 8 week camp for up to 75 at risk children. Camp will create 6 jobs over a 3 month period. The program is called "Fun in the Forest" and will offer education, exercise, and self esteem activities. Campers will learn safety skills, survival skills, camping skills, plant & animal identification as well as swimming lessons. Additional information is needed before the request can be scheduled for a public hearing in the future.
- Margaret Finnerty was contacted regarding the museum insurance and is awaiting the waiver of release from Mr. Gibbons. The insurance needs to be purchased first, and then a waiver will be issued. Administration will follow-up with Finnerty.
- Daniel Johnson – has a Title III funding request public hearing on April 6<sup>th</sup> and he has asked if he is required to be at the hearing as he has a fire fighting class that has been scheduled for that date in New Mexico. Based on previous performance and this request being to continue that work, it is not necessary for Johnson to be present.
- Receive an email from Kristy Murphy that MOU needs to be reviewed and any changes sent back. Her last day is March 26 and Andrew Archuleta will be handling the Camino Chamisa road project. Attorney Gibbons will read the MOU and send changes to the Board.

**Spearman moved to re-appoint Erica Torr to the SLV 4-H Fair Board as Saguache County's representative. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

SLV Fair Board has requested that Erica Torr be reappointed as the Saguache representative for the SLV 4-H Fair Board. The Fair Board has changed their meeting days so Torr should be able to attend future meetings.

**Wendi Maez - Land Use report:**

- Sent Russell Engineer statement to Tessera Solar and they will send the funds to cover this statement.
- Sent updated Scope of Work to Russell Engineering for their review to have ready to sign when we receive final 1041 application from Tessera Solar.
- Maez has spoken with the State of Colorado Public Health Department concerning the Town of Moffat sewage systems. The State has recommended that an IGA be created to cover inspections, enforcement, fines etc.

**Ben Gibbons - County Attorney**

- The issue of small towns acting as their own Board of Health has been addressed in new regulations in the CCR. Gibbons and Maez will meet with Matt Hobbs, Moffat Attorney and representatives from Moffat to work out an IGA or MOU to present to the Board for consideration.
- Reviewed the MOU with the GEO to see if there is a requirement to expend funds at this time. A good faith effort does need to be made to put out RFPs to do energy work and only if a contract is entered into do funds need to be spent.

**Mike Norris - Sheriff**

- Board met Sheriff Norris at the jail for a tour.

Adjourned for Lunch at 12:00 P. M.

Resumed meeting at 1:00 P. M.

**Randal Arredondo – Supervisor Road & Bridge and Landfill Report:**

**Spearman moved to approve joining the Partnership for Rural America Campaign to negotiate SRS money. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

- Attended a meeting for Partnership for Rural America Campaign in Denver a group working towards a ten year plan for SRS funding at a constant level. Arredondo wants the County to join, (there would be dues), to have a voice in the process. Arredondo will look into the dues structure and see if it fits into his budget. Board approved.
- Michael Horan brought before the board three requests for Road and Bridge Department, 1) asphalt mat paving of County Road AA in 5 mile increments, 2) Grade the County road into Old Cow Town to increase ease of access to an excellent tourist attraction for the county, 3) CR AA needs to be bladed again due to wash boarding. He also wants to

know what asphalt overlay projects are scheduled for this year for the county, Arredondo read the paving schedule for 2010. Arredondo agreed to grade AA and Old Cow Town roads.

- Arredondo has been looking into partnering with Social Services to find more work for the Southwest Conservation Youth Corps kids this summer. Director Norris is researching if TANF funds can be spent on this.
- Wants to purchase a new truck bed and switch beds on trucks to make the equipment more useful. Board approved the expenditure.
- Free Dump day will be April 24.

**Joseph moved to enter into Executive Session at 1:30 P.M. for personnel purposes under CRS 24-6-402(4)(f)(i). Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Spearman moved to return to regular session at 1:49 P.M. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Joseph moved to convene as Saguache County Board of Social Services at 1:50 P.M. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

#### **Jeannie Norris - Director**

- There were 24 TANF cases during the month of February. Food assistance cases increased again by 16 cases for a total of 488. There were 27 aid-to-the-needy-disabled cases in February, and 93 old-age pension cases. The CHEERS Training Center had 10 TANF clients during the month, and did not have any adult education students.
- The Child and Adult Protection Unit had seven child protection referrals, all of them having been accepted for investigation. There continued to be ten dependency and neglect cases for the month, with twelve children in placement. Adult protection had seven open cases and four new referrals.
- Julie Westerman has completed training, and is now licensed as a Certified Addition Counselor II. As such she is qualified to conduct alcohol and drug individual or group counseling services independently.
- LEAP has distributed \$399,208.25 to Saguache County residents as compared to \$298,204.25 in 2009. There are 14 applications pending at this time.
- The IV-D Unit reports monthly collections for February up by 21 percent to \$44,238.58 from February, 2009. Year-to-date figures in 2009 were \$70,738.85, and have increased by 12 percent to \$79,209.60 for 2010.
- The Child Welfare allocation has been reduced by \$10,709 effective March 1, based upon a projected Title IV-E revenue shortfall.
- The March 4 Policy Action Committee meeting dealt primarily with rapidly increasing food assistance caseloads and funding issues. Lobbying continues for tax-base relief, however there is very little hope of funding at this time.
- Rio Grande and Conejos Counties have withdrawn from the ITA due to budget concerns. Alamosa, Saguache and Costilla are pursuing service startup, as there are three available buses at this time without cost.

- Security upgrades to the Social Services Building are in progress, and appears less costly than originally projected. These renovations will be reflected in the capital outlay segment of the DSS budget, and later in the year a supplemental budget request will be submitted from the Administration office and DSS to adjust for unbudgeted expenditures.

**Spearman moved to sell \$13,000 excess TANF funds to Weld County in exchange for \$1900 MOE,(matching county funds) which will go into a fund balance reserve. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

- Weld County has requested to buy Saguache County's excess TANF funds in exchange for \$1900 in MOE monies.

**Joseph moved to enter into Executive Session at 2:10 P.M. for security purposes under CRS 24-6-402(4)(f)(i). Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Joseph moved to return to regular the Board of Social Services meeting at 2:27 P.M. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

- Board instructed Director Norris to obtain bids on energy improvements for the Saguache County DSS Building in Saguache.

**Joseph moved to return to regular session at 2:30 P. M. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Jim Felmlee** - OEM quarterly report:  
Cancelled as Felmlee was on an Ambulance run.

Break

**Spearman moved to convene as the Housing Board at 2:40 P.M. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

**Chella Moores** - Housing Director:

**Joseph moved to adjourn the Housing Board and return to regular meeting at 3:02 P.M. seconded. The vote was three Ayes.**

Melinda Myers – County Clerk

**Joseph moved to approve the Liquor License renewal for La Garita Trading Post. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

- Liquor License renewal for the La Garita Trading Post

**Adam Lauer** - Veteran's Green Job Weatherization Services

- Reported on how the program works and who can qualify for the weatherization. This program now provides up to \$6,500 for those with incomes at 200% of poverty level.

Bill Paying

**Joseph moved to adjourn at 3:45 P.M. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Melinda Myers Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners

Minutes Approved April 6, 2010

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Chairman of the Board

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Attest

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Commissioner

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Commissioner